

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 034169.WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION	
International application No. PCT/NL2004/000796	International filing date (day/month/year) 12/11/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 25/11/2003
see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.		
Applicant VERMEULEN, Anthonius Hendricus Maria		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).
 - b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.
- 2. **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box II).
- 3. **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box III).
- 4. With regard to the **title**,
 - the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
 - the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the **drawings**,

- a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1
 - as suggested by the applicant.
 - as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
 - as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.
- b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**Box No. IV Text of the abstract (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)**

Device (1) for removing mercury from mercury-containing residues (6), comprising a gastight screw (2) conveyor provided with an inlet (5) for mercury-containing residues (6), first heating means for heating admitted mercury-containing residues and causing mercury to evaporate, an outlet conduit (7) for mercury vapour-containing gas and an outlet channel (10) for mercury-free residues, which device (1) is provided with pump means (16) for applying an underpressure in the screw conveyor (2) and discharging mercury vapour-containing gas therefrom, and with a distillation column (17) provided with cooling means (18, 19) to cause condensation of mercury vapour from the mercury vapour-containing gas discharged with the pump means (16), and a method for removing mercury from mercury-containing residues (6) using this device.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/NL2004/000796

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 B09B3/00 B03B9/06 C22B43/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 B09B B09C C22B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 569 154 A (NAVETTA MICHAEL S) 29 October 1996 (1996-10-29) column 4, line 52 - column 7, line 30 figures	1-5, 12-14 6,7,17
Y	NL 9 100 119 A (KUSTERS ENGINEERING BV) 17 August 1992 (1992-08-17) cited in the application page 2, line 20 - page 5, line 17	6,7,17
A	WO 00/56474 A (SEPRADYNE) 28 September 2000 (2000-09-28) page 1, line 10 - line 13 page 9, line 14 - page 20, line 12 figures 1-5	1,12
X		1,2,5, 12,14

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
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25 February 2005

08/03/2005

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/NL2004/000796

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 5569154	A 29-10-1996	NONE		
NL 9100119	A 17-08-1992	NONE		
WO 0056474	A 28-09-2000	US 6105275 A 22-08-2000 AU 3755600 A 09-10-2000 JP 2002539926 T 26-11-2002 WO 0056474 A1 28-09-2000 US 6226889 B1 08-05-2001		